



COPYRIGHT ROYALTY TRIBUNAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1111 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 653-5175

COMMISSIONERS:
Thomas C. Brennan
Douglas E. Coulter
Mary Lou Burg
Clarence L. James, Jr.
Frances Garcia

April 7, 1980

Harris E. Tulchin, Esquire
Attorney for American Society
of Music Arrangers
1517 Yale Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Dear Mr. Tulchin:

This is to inform you that the Copyright Royalty Tribunal denies the claim of the American Society of Music Arrangers for a separate mechanical royalty to be paid to the arranger of a phonorecord.

The Tribunal interprets 17 U.S.C. § 115 as providing that the compulsory license royalty is to be paid only to the copyright owner of the original musical composition. Congress did not grant the Tribunal the statutory authority to create a new compulsory license. Rather the Congress, 17 U.S.C. § 801(b)(1), expressly limited the Tribunal to the adjustment of reasonable copyright royalty rates as provided in Section 115.

Accordingly, the Tribunal rejects the proposal of the American Society of Music Arrangers as outlined by Mr. Eddy L. Manson in his letter of January 31, 1980.

Sincerely,



Mary Lou Burg
Chairman

cc: Stanley Gortikov, RIAA
Leonard Feist, NMPA
Alvin Deutsch, AGAC